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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 09 BOMB 005421

SIPDIS

FROM AMEMBASSY ROME

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NSC FOR JDWORKEN  
USAID FOR A, DCHA, OFDA, FFP  
STATE FOR AF, IO, DAS/PRM  
USDA FOR FAS/EC/PDD TILLSWORTH AND  
FAS/ICD KRAMER, LEBLANC  
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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: LIBERIA: WFP ADDRESSES A GROWING NUMBER OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

COUNTRY-ALL WITH THE INTENTION OF TIGHTENING THE OPERATION. THIS REPORT WILL FOCUS PRIMARILY ON WFP'S REFORMS AND AREAS WHERE ATTENTION IS STILL NEEDED.

## SITES OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

16. IDP CAMPS IN BONG COUNTY (CARI I AND II, TV  
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PAGE 03 ROME 05421 02 OF 09 06163ZZ  
(TOWER) WERE ATTACKED IN MAY AND JUNE AND THE  
INHABITANTS WERE DISPLACED FOR A SECOND, AND  
SOMETIMES THIRD OR FOURTH TIME. SUBSEQUENTLY, THREE  
CAMPS NEAR THE TOWN OF TOTOTA WERE CONSTRUCTED:  
MAMU I, II, AND III. SOME IDPS LEFT AND RETURNED TO  
CARI I, AND OTHER NEW IDPS ENTERED THE CARI CAMPS.  
TV TOWER CAMP ALSO REMAINS. THE OCTOBER POPULATION  
TOTAL FOR THE CAMPS IN BONG COUNTY WAS 59,160, WHICH  
IS MORE THAN DOUBLE THE NUMBER THAT WERE DISPLACED IN  
BONG IN FEBRUARY (28,500). 90 PERCENT OF THE IDPS IN  
THE BONG CAMPS ARE FROM LOFA COUNTY.

17. IDPS ALSO REMAIN IN BELEFANAI, BUT IT IS CURRENTLY INACCESSIBLE DUE TO INSECURITY. IN ADDITION, THERE IS A GROUP OF ABOUT 5,550 IDPS IN GANTA (EAST OF BELEFANAI IN NIMBA COUNTY) WHO CHOOSE TO REMAIN CLOSE TO THE BORDER WITH GUINEA, BUT ARE RECEIVING FOOD ASSISTANCE FROM WFP.

18. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE FIVE IDP CAMPS IN MONTSERRADO COUNTY, WHICH ARE EXTREMELY CLOSE TO MONROVIA. THE TOTAL POPULATION OF IDPS IN MONTSERRADO IS 111,045 AS OF OCTOBER 24. THIS FIGURE REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT 34 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE NUMBER OF IDPS THAT WFP FED IN MONTSERRADO IN SEPTEMBER. (NOTE: THE NUMBER OF IDPS IN WILSON CORNER MORE THAN DOUBLED FROM 12,310 NEAR THE END OF SEPTEMBER TO 35,350 IN OCTOBER. WFP/LIBERIA AND OTHERS FEEL THAT DISPLACED STAYING WITH FAMILIES NEAR MONROVIA ARE BEING ENCOURAGED BY THEIR RELATIVES TO SEEK SHELTER IN THE CAMPS. SEE PARAS 28-29 BELOW.

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PAGE 04 ROME 05421 02 OF 09 061632Z  
END NOTE.) THERE ARE ALSO FOUR REFUGEE CAMPS IN  
MONTSERRADO WITH A POPULATION TOTALING 22,500.

CLEANING UP IDP REGISTRATION

19. THE REGISTRATION PROCESS IN THE IDP CAMPS IS SOMETHING THAT CONTINUES TO BE PERFECTED. THE GOVERNMENT'S LIBERIA REFUGEE, REPATRIATION AND RESETTLEMENT COMMISSION (LRRRC) WAS, UNTIL RECENTLY, SOLELY IN CHARGE OF THE REGISTRATION, BUT THERE WERE MANY PROBLEMS AND WFP WAS VERY UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THE PROCESS. LRRRC WAS RELYING ON CAMP MANAGERS TO COMPOSE THE LISTS OF BENEFICIARIES. IN AN EFFORT TO VERIFY THAT POTENTIAL BENEFICIARIES WERE TRULY DISPLACED, LRRRC HAD REQUIRED A FAMILY TO BUILD ITS HOUSE BEFORE IT RECEIVED A RATION CARD. DUE TO THE VULNERABILITY OF SOME HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS, THIS PRACTICE LED TO A LONG DELAY FOR SOME BENEFICIARIES IN RECEIVING ANY FOOD ASSISTANCE.

10. WITHIN THE LAST FEW WEEKS, IT WAS AGREED THAT

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PAGE 01 ROME 05421 03 OF 09 061633Z  
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INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CTAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00
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	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	NSAE-00	OES-00	OTC-02	OMB-01
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6783  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA  
NSC WASHDC  
USDA PAS WASHDC 2389  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY  
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN  
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA  
AMEMBASSY ABUJA  
AMEMBASSY BAKAHO  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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WHEN LRRRC REGISTERS THE IDP FAMILY, WFP WOULD HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT TO ISSUE THE RATION CARD. THIS WILL TAKE THE PLACE OF THE COUPON THAT LRRRC HAD BEEN GIVING, WHICH HAS CAUSED SOME FRAUD WITHIN THE DISTRIBUTIONS. EVEN SO, DURING AN OCTOBER 3 MEETING IN JAHTONDO CAMP, WHICH HAS AN ESTIMATED POPULATION OF 16,383 (AN INCREASE OF ALMOST 4,000 FROM THE SEPTEMBER FIGURE), IT BECAME QUITE CLEAR THAT THE RECENT REGISTRATION EXERCISE WAS FLAWED AND WOULD

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PAGE 03 ROME 05421 03 OF 09 061633Z  
NEED TO BE REPEATED.

111. IN ADDITION, WFP HAS BEEN CONDUCTING VERIFICATION EXERCISES BEFORE DISTRIBUTIONS WHEREBY WFP STAFF VISIT THE HOUSE AND THE FAMILY MUST PRESENT THE NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS LISTED ON THE CARD. WFP CONDUCTED VERIFICATIONS IN ALL CAMPS PRIOR TO DISTRIBUTIONS IN SEPTEMBER AND PLANS TO EXECUTE THE VERIFICATION EXERCISE EVERY OTHER MONTH.

112. THE U.N. OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS (OCHA) IS PLANNING A VERIFICATION EXERCISE OF ALL IDPS WHICH WILL SOON TAKE PLACE SIMULTANEOUSLY IN ALL THE CAMPS. UN AGENCIES AND NGOS ARE GIVING FULL SUPPORT TO OCHA. WFP IS SUPPORTING OCHA WITH BACK-UP COMPUTER SUPPORT AND TRANSPORT FOR THE EXERCISE AND IS HOPING THE VERIFICATION WILL LEAD TO REDUCTIONS IN THE NUMBERS.

RE-VAMPING FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

113. AFTER THE SECURITY PROBLEMS OF LAST MAY AND JUNE, WFP STOPPED STORING COMMODITIES IN LOCAL WAREHOUSES UP-COUNTRY. EACH DAY THE TRUCKS FILLED WITH WFP COMMODITIES DROVE UP TO BONG COUNTY AND WFP DISTRIBUTED FOOD DIRECTLY FROM THE TRUCKS. ALTHOUGH THIS METHOD PREVENTED LOSS OF STOCKS, THE DISTRIBUTIONS WERE TAKING ALMOST THE ENTIRE MONTH TO COMPLETE. BAGIRISHYA AND HIS TEAM HAVE SINCE CUT

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PAGE 04 ROME 054211 03 OF 09 061633Z  
MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION TIME DOWN TO SEVEN DAYS BY  
REOPENING THE WAREHOUSE IN PHEBE (BONG COUNTY) WITH  
THE ADDED PRECAUTION OF STORING FOOD FOR ONLY ONE DAY  
PRIOR TO DISTRIBUTION, AND LEAVING IT PRACTICALLY  
EMPTY THE REST OF THE MONTH. WFP INTENDS TO  
ULTIMATELY CUT THE DISTRIBUTION TIME DOWN TO THREE OR  
FOUR DAYS.

114. BAGIRISSYA ALSO DISCOVERED THAT MANY OF THE FOOD MONITORS HAD BECOME OFFICE-BOUND AND DISPATCHED THEM ALL TO THE FIELD. THE MONTSERRADO CAMP MONITORS VISIT THE CAMPS EVERY DAY; THE UP-COUNTRY MONITORS VISIT TWO TO THREE TIMES A WEEK. THE MONITORS OVERSEE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS, ADDRESS PROBLEMS THAT ARISE, AND WORK WITH WFP'S IMPLEMENTING PARTNER TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY. THE MONITORS WILL ALSO SOON BE TRAINED IN POST-DISTRIBUTION MONITORING, SO THAT WFP WILL HAVE A BETTER IDEA OF HOW LONG THE FOOD IS LASTING AND HOW IT IS USED.

15. IN RESPONDING TO THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION ISSUES, WFP/LIBERIA IS TAKING STEPS TO ENSURE THAT ALL FOOD AID MONITORS ADDRESS PROMPTLY AND ADEQUATELY ALL

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PAGE 01 ROME 05421 04 OF 09 061633Z  
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P 061523Z NOV 02  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6784  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA  
NSC WASHDC  
USDA FAS WASHDC 2390  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
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PAGE 02 ROME 05421 04 OF 09 061633Z  
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FROM AMEMBASSY ROME

E.O. 12958: N/A

GENDER ISSUES DURING FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS, WHICH INCLUDE ENFORCING THE POLICY OF WFP'S COMMITMENTS TO WOMEN AND DISCOURAGING ALL ACTS THAT TEND TO ABUSE FEMALE BENEFICIARIES DURING AND AFTER THE DISTRIBUTIONS.

PAGE 03 ROME 05421 04 OF 09 061633Z  
DISTRIBUTION MONITORING. THE QUESTION OF FUNDING HAS  
TO BE RESOLVED. HOWEVER.

118. BAGIRISHYA HAS RESURRECTED THE COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID (CFA) AND SERVES AS ITS CHAIR. IT IS COMPOSED OF WFP, UNHCR, NGOS, THE LRRRC, AND DONORS. THE CFA MEETS EVERY OTHER WEEK AND PROVIDES A FORUM FOR ALL PARTNERS TO DISCUSS ISSUES AND PROBLEMS AND TO FIND SOLUTIONS WITHIN THE GROUP. ALL PARTNERS WELCOMED THIS MOVE.

19. BAGIRISHYA HAS ALSO ORGANIZED A CFA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF SELECTED CFA MEMBERS AND OTHER AGENCIES WORKING WITH FOOD AID. THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ADVISES THE CFA ON POLICY MATTERS AND ENSURES THAT DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE CFA ARE EXECUTED.

20. IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS, WFP HAS SIGNED  
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PAGE 04 ROME 05421 04 OF 09 061633Z  
AGREEMENTS WITH VARIOUS NGOS TO WORK AS IMPLEMENTING  
PARTNERS (IPS), DISTRIBUTING WFP FOOD IN THE CAMPS.  
WFP IS PROVIDING SOME TRAINING TO ITS IPS ABOUT THE  
CORRECT METHODS OF DISTRIBUTING THE FOOD: HOW TO  
CHECK THE CARDS, HOW TO SCOOP THE RATIONS FOR EACH  
FAMILY SIZE, ETC. THE IP AGREEMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1A. BONG COUNTY IDP CAMPS (ALL 7): LUTHERAN WORLD  
FEDERATION (LWF)

**1B. MARGIBI COUNTY, KAKATA (IDPS): ADRA**

1C. NIMBA COUNTY, GANTA (IDPS): UNITED METHODIST  
COMMITTEE ON RELIEF (UMCOR)

#### D. MONTSERRADO IDP CAMPS:

BLAMASEE AND WILSON TOWN: LIBERIAN ISLAMIC  
UNION FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (LIURD)  
SAWEGBEAH, PLUS IDPS IN VOA AND ZUANNAH TOWN  
REFUGEE CAMPS: WORLD VISION (WV)  
JAHTONDO AND RICKS INSTITUTE: ADRA

UNCLASSIFIED PTO2520

PAGE 01 ROME 05421 05 OF 09 061633Z  
ACTION AF-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00
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	TEDB-00	INR-00	IO-00	NSAE-00	OES-00	OTC-02	OMB-01
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PAGE 02 ROME 05421 05 OF 09 061633Z  
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UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 09 ROME 005421

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1E. MONTSERRADO REFUGEE CAMPS (ALL 4): LIBERIAN  
ISLAMIC UNION FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT  
(LIURD)

## RATION SIZES

21. WFP IS CURRENTLY PROVIDING IDPS A RATION EQUAL  
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PAGE 03 ROME 05421 05 OF 09 061633Z  
TO 1,800 KILOCALORIES (KC) PER DAY, WHICH IS 300 KC  
SHORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD OF 2,100 KC PER  
DAY. UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT THOSE LIVING NEARER  
TO MONROVIA WOULD HAVE GREATER ACCESS TO ADDITIONAL  
COPING MECHANISMS, WFP'S NEW PRRO (WHICH BEGINS IN  
JANUARY) PLANS TO PROVIDE THE IDPS IN MONTSEERRADO  
WITH 1,800 KILOCALORIES (KC), WHILE THE RATION FOR  
THOSE IN CAMPS UP-COUNTRY WOULD INCREASE TO 2,100 KC.  
AFTER VIEWING THE AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION OUTSIDE SOME  
OF THE BONG COUNTY CAMPS, HOWEVER, THE USAID TEAM  
RECOMMENDS THE DECISION REGARDING RATION SIZE SHOULD  
BE BASED ON VULNERABILITY AND/OR NUTRITIONAL  
ASSESSMENT RATHER THAN A NOTIONAL DETERMINATION OF  
COPING MECHANISMS AND URGED WFP TO MAKE DECISIONS  
REGARDING RATION SIZE AFTER CONDUCTING ASSESSMENTS.

## AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY AROUND THE CAMPS

122. THE GOODNEWS IS THAT IDPS ARE BEING PROVIDED LAND FOR PLANTING AROUND THE CAMPS IN BONG, AS WELL AS IN MONTERRADO. WHEREAS IN FEBRUARY, THE AMOUNTS OF LAND PROVIDED TO THE IDPS WERE VERY SMALL AND IDP MOVEMENTS WERE GREATLY RESTRICTED OUTSIDE THE CAMP, TODAY THE SITUATION IS MUCH IMPROVED. THERE SEEMS TO BE NO PROBLEM NOW WITH IDPS FREELY MOVING IN THE AREA, AND THE FIELDS WITNESSED BY THE TEAM WERE TRULY IMPRESSIVE. THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION OF THE U.N. (FAO) PROVIDED SEEDS LAST SPRING, AND THE HARVEST WILL BE GOOD FOR THOSE WHO WERE ABLE TO

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PAGE 04 ROME 05421 05 OF 09 061633Z  
PLANT.

223. THE IDPS FROM LOFA ARE AN INDUSTRIOUS BUNCH AND WANT TO CONTINUE THEIR ACTIVITIES. DURING A DISCUSSION WITH THE USAID TEAM, THEY ASKED FOR VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, AS WELL AS MORE AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT. AS BONG AND LOFA COUNTIES ARE CONSIDERED THE BREAD BASKETS FOR THE COUNTRY, IT IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT THAT IDPS FROM THESE COUNTIES BE ABLE TO CONTINUE AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY IN THEIR TEMPORARY LOCATIONS.

124. THE IDPS IN JAHTONDO CAMP IN MONTSERRADO HAVE BEEN GIVEN 189 ACRES OF LAND FOR PLANTING, AND ARE HOPING TO GET MORE TO ACCOMMODATE ITS 16,383 INHABITANTS. PLOTS, WHICH ARE SHARED BY TWO FAMILIES, ARE 132 X 82.5 FEET IN SIZE. THE IDPS IN JAHTONDO HAD PLANTED CASSAVA, COW PEAS, AND GROUND NUTS. SOME OF THE SEEDS HAD BEEN DISTRIBUTED BY FAO. LRRRC TOLD THE USAID TEAM THAT IT HAD SEEN THE IMPACT OF FAO'S WORK IN LIBERIA, WHICH WAS CERTAINLY WELCOME NEWS.

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UNCLASSIFIED PTO2522

PAGE 01 ROME 05421 06 OF 09 061634Z  
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INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00
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PAGE 02 ROME 05421 06 OF 09 061634Z  
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GENEVA FOR RMA  
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25. ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM (ACF) IS ADDRESSING NUTRITIONAL PROBLEMS IN LIBERIA AND TOLD THE USAID TEAM THAT THE NUTRITIONAL SITUATION WAS PRECARIOUS, BUT FAR FROM A DISASTER. MALNUTRITION RATES HAD PEAKED IN EARLY SEPTEMBER, THE END OF THE HUNGRY

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126. ACF REPORTED THE NUMBER OF SEVERELY MALNOURISHED BENEFICIARIES (LESS THAN 70 PERCENT WEIGHT FOR HEIGHT) IN THE THERAPEUTIC FEEDING CENTERS (TFCs) WAS. ALREADY BEGINNING TO DECLINE SINCE THE BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER. THERE WERE 180 IN THE TFC IN THE VOA CAMP (MONTERRADO COUNTY) AND 40 PERCENT OF THOSE WERE FROM THE LOCAL POPULATION. ACF REPORTED THE SAME TREND IN ITS TFC IN PHEBE IN BONG COUNTY. OUT OF THE 80 TFC BENEFICIARIES IN BONG, 45-50 PERCENT WERE FROM THE LOCAL POPULATION. ACF ATTRIBUTED THIS TREND TO THE INCREASED BURDEN PUT ON HOUSEHOLDS ACTING AS HOST FAMILIES TO IDPS, AS WELL AS THE DISRUPTION IN AGRICULTURE CAUSED BY THE UPROOTING OF OVER 200,000 PEOPLE. SUCH A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF SEVERELY MALNOURISHED BENEFICIARIES FROM THE LOCAL POPULATION IS WORRISOME AND MERITS CLOSE MONITORING, EVEN THOUGH THE OVERALL NUMBERS ARE STILL SMALL.

427. ACF SAID THE AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR MODERATELY MALNOURISHED IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING CENTERS (SFCs) WAS THREE TO FOUR MONTHS. THE RECOVERY TIME IS LONGER THAN NORMAL BECAUSE THE SFC RATION IS BEING SHARED WITH THE FAMILY OR SOLD/BARTERED BECAUSE OF THE INCREASED NEEDS. NUMBERS IN THE SFCs IN MONTESERRADO COUNTY WERE BETWEEN 2,000 AND 2,500, WHEREAS NUMBERS IN THE SFCs UP-COUNTRY TOTALED APPROXIMATELY 1,000.

PAGE 04 ROME 05421 06 OF 09 061634Z  
NEEDS OF HOST FAMILIES

129. THE NEEDS OF THE HOST FAMILIES MAY SOON HAVE TO BE ADDRESSED. WFP IS HOPING TO TAKE AN INITIAL STEP TO IDENTIFY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS BY STARTING WITH A VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS AND MAPPING (VAM) STUDY. THE USAID TEAM FULLY SUPPORTS THIS INITIATIVE, AS THE NEEDS OF HOST FAMILIES ARE AN ISSUE THAT COULD GROW IN IMPORTANCE OVER TIME. ALREADY THE NUMBER OF HOSTING FAMILIES IN AND AROUND MONROVIA IS TROUBLING. AS PROVIDING ANY KIND OF ASSISTANCE NEAR MONROVIA IS

PAGE 01 ROME 05421 07 OF 09 061634Z  
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PAGE 02 ROME 05421 07 OF 09 061634Z  
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FROM AMEMBASSY ROME

E.O. 12958: N/A

LADEN WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR FRAUD, CREATIVE APPROACHES TO ADDRESSING THESE NEEDS WILL BE NECESSARY.

30. THE LRRRC STAFF SEEM MUCH MORE ENGAGED THAN THEY  
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131. LIKEWISE, THE MORALE OF THE U.N. COUNTRY TEAM HAS SUBSTANTIALLY RISEN. THE ADDITION OF THE U.N. RESIDENT COORDINATOR/ HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR MARC DE BERNIS HAS HAD A VERY POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE TEAM'S MORALE. HE HAS MADE GREAT STRIDES IN PULLING THE TEAM TOGETHER, IN ADDRESSING SOME OF THE KEY ISSUES REGARDING THE STATUS AND CONDITION OF THE IDPS (INCLUDING PROTECTION ISSUES), AND IN WORKING WITH THE GOVERNMENT ON THESE ISSUES. THE WORK OF OCHA HAS ALSO GREATLY IMPROVED.

132. WFP CURRENTLY PROVIDES FOOD ASSISTANCE TO APPROXIMATELY 22,500 SIERRA LEONEAN REFUGEES WHO ARE ACCOMMODATED IN FOUR CAMPS IN MONTERRADO COUNTY. AS STATED ABOVE, LIURD IS THE DISTRIBUTION PARTNER AND LWF IS CONDUCTING POST-DISTRIBUTION MONITORING (PDM) WHICH WAS BEGUN AFTER THE FEBRUARY VISIT OF WFP. LWF HAS METICULOUSLY AND IMPARTIALLY PROVIDED THE INFORMATION, HOWEVER, WFP INTENDS TO ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM.

PAGE 04 ROME 05421 07 OF 09 061634Z  
APPROXIMATELY 1,800 KC PER DAY PER REFUGEE. IN THE  
MEETING WITH THE REFUGEES, THEY ASKED THE USAID TEAM  
FOR A VARIETY OF THINGS RANGING FROM BETTER SALT TO  
LARGER RATIONS TO SUITCASES FOR THE TRIP HOME. ONE  
REFUGEE EVEN COMPLAINED THAT THE COMPUTER TRAINING HE  
HAD RECEIVED FROM UNHCR WAS INAPPROPRIATE TO HIS  
SITUATION. THE USAID TEAM STRONGLY ENCOURAGED THE  
REFUGEES TO RETURN TO SIERRA LEONE IN THE NEAR  
FUTURE.

134. UNDER IIS CURRENT PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATION (PRRO), IT WAS ANTICIPATED THAT WFP/LIBERIA WOULD REQUIRE A TOTAL OF 16,476 METRIC TONS (MT) FOOD AID TO PROVIDE FOR A MONTHLY AVERAGE OF 112,000 BENEFICIARIES (JANUARY - DECEMBER 2002), WHICH WFP/LIBERIA IS CURRENTLY FAR EXCEEDING (FEEDING OVER 223,000 IN NOVEMBER). FY 2002 USAID/DCHA/FPF TITLE II EMERGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS TO LIBERIA WERE 5,480 MT FOOD COMMODITIES OR 2.8 MILLION USD, REPRESENTING

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PAGE 01 ROME 05421 08 OF 09 061634Z  
ACTION AF-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CTAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00
	SRPF-00	EAP-00	EB-00	EUR-00	E-00	UTED-00	FDRE-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	NSAE-00	OES-00	OTC-02	OMB-01
	SEC-01	SSO-00	STR-00	TEST-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	R-00
	PRM-00	SAS-00	/005W				

P 061523Z NOV 02  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6788  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

NSC WASHDC  
USDA FAS WASHDC 2394  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY  
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN  
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA  
AMEMBASSY ABUJA  
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USEU BRUSSELS 2921

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PAGE 02 ROME 05421 08 OF 09 061634Z  
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J3/J4/J5  
HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ4-ID-HA

UNCLAS SECTION 08 OF 09 ROME 005421

SIPDIS

FROM AMEMBASSY ROME

GENEVA FOR RMA  
NSC FOR JDWORKEN  
USAID FOR A, DCHA, OFDA, FFP  
STATE FOR AF, IO, DAS/PRM  
USDA FOR FAS/EC/PDD TILLSWORTH AND  
FAS/ICD KRAMER, LEBLANC  
USUN FOR MLUTZ  
NAIROBI FOR REDSO AND OFDA/ARO  
DAKAR FOR NESTES AND KSTURR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [E A I D](#) [E A G R](#) [A O R C](#) [P R E F](#) [E A G R](#) [A O R C](#) [P R E F](#) [E A G R](#) [A O R C](#) [P R E F](#) [E A G R](#) [A O R C](#) [P R E F](#) [E A G R](#) [A O R C](#) [P R E F](#) [E A G R](#) [A O R C](#) [P R E F](#) [E A G R](#) [A O R C](#) [P R E F](#) [E A G R](#) [A O R C](#) [P R E F](#)

SUBJECT: LIBERIA: WFP ADDRESSES A GROWING NUMBER OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

ABOUT 33 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL PRRO FOOD REQUIREMENTS FOR LIBERIA. WFP REPORTS THAT THE PIPELINE IS FINE THROUGH THE END OF 2002.

135. THE NEW PRRO FOR COASTAL WEST AFRICA WAS  
APPROVED AT THE OCTOBER WFP EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
AND BEGINS JANUARY 1, 2003. IT REQUESTS 30,305 MT  
FOOD FOR 12 MONTHS FOR LIBERIA. BY COINCIDENCE, THE  
NEW PRRO INCLUDES COTE D'IVOIRE AND ALSO CARRIES WITH  
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PAGE 03 ROME 05421 08 OF 09 061634Z  
IT A CONTINGENCY MEASURE TO ACCOMMODATE AN ADDED  
BENEFICIARY LOAD OF 50,000, IF NEEDED. THE  
CONTINGENCY WAS ORIGINALLY WITH LIBERIA IN MIND, BUT  
COULD BE ACTIVATED FOR ANY OF THE FOUR COUNTRIES OF  
THE PRRO.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

36. RECOMMENDATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS FOR WFP AND USAID:

-- WFP NEEDS TO REMAIN VIGILANT ABOUT THE REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR THE CURRENT CAMPS AND NEW IDPS. THE NEW PROCESSES WFP HAS PUT INTO PLACE ARE WELCOME AND EFFECTIVE, BUT IT IS A DYNAMIC PROCESS THAT REQUIRES CONSTANT ATTENTION.

-- WFP SHOULD BASE THE SIZE OF THE IDP RATION ON VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS RATHER THAN ASSUMPTIONS REGARDING COPING MECHANISMS AS THEY RELATE TO CAMP LOCATION.

-- AS MANY OF WFP'S RELATIONSHIPS WITH ITS IPS ARE FAIRLY NEW, WFP SHOULD CLOSELY MONITOR THE WORK OF THE IPS' DISTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FIRST FEW MONTHS TO ENSURE EFFICIENCY.

-- WFP SHOULD WORK TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING A VAM STUDY  
OF HOST FAMILIES TO DETERMINE LEVEL OF VULNERABILITY  
OUTSIDE THE IDP CAMPS. WFP/LIBERIA WILL HAVE TO  
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PAGE 04 ROME 05421 08 OF 09 061634Z  
DETERMINE HOW THIS WILL BE FUNDED. USAID/DCHA ALSO  
NEEDS TO CONSIDER HOW ASSISTANCE IN AND AROUND  
MONROVIA MAY BE PROVIDED TO HOST FAMILIES IF DEEMED  
NECESSARY IN THE FUTURE.

NOTE: TO THIS END, USAID/DCHA/OFDA ALREADY IS FUNDING WFP/VAM WORK IN GUINEA SO THAT WFP CAN BETTER TARGET VULNERABLE IDPS AND THEIR HOST FAMILIES. WFP/SIERRA LEONE, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE THREE OTHER FOOD PIPELINE AGENCIES, HAS RECENTLY SUBMITTED A VAM PROPOSAL TO USAID/OFDA FOR CONSIDERATION. THE SEC RECOMMENDS THAT WFP ENSURE A COMMON REGIONAL VAM METHODOLOGY IN THESE THREE COUNTRIES AND THAT USAID/OFDA CONSIDER SUPPORTING SUCH A REGIONAL APPROACH.

-- WFP SHOULD SOON BEGIN POST-DISTRIBUTION MONITORING (PDM) IN THE IDP CAMPS. FUNDING IS AGAIN AN ISSUE THAT MUST BE RESOLVED.

-- THE PDM THAT IS ONGOING IN THE REFUGEE CAMPS  
NEEDS TO BE REVIEWED AND IMPROVED, AS THE REPORTS ARE



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INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00
	SRPF-00	EAP-00	EB-00	EUR-00	E-00	UTED-00	FDRE-01
	TEDB-00	INR-00	IO-00	NSAE-00	OES-00	OTC-02	OMB-01
	SEC-01	SSO-00	STR-00	TEST-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	R-00
	PRM-00	SAS-00	/005W				

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PAGE 02 ROME 05421 09 OF 09 061634Z  
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UNCLAS SECTION 09 OF 09 ROME 005421

FROM AMEMBASSY ROME

E.O. 12958: N/A

[illegible]

SERIOUSLY LACKING PERTINENT INFORMATION.

-- WFP/LIBERIA IS ABSENT AN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICER. ALTHOUGH THE NATIONAL STAFF MEMBER IS QUITE COMPETENT, THIS POSITION NEEDS TO BE FILLED SOON. THE WFP REGIONAL OFFICE IS AWARE OF THIS NEED.

137. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. HALL

PAGE 03 ROME 05421 09 OF 09 061634Z

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